

# MIDDLE SCHOOL WITH SUBJECT MATTER SPECIALIZATION: WORLD LANGUAGE - AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE GRADES 5 – 8 CERTIFICATE OF ELIGIBILITY (ENDORSEMENT CODE: 1105)

**TO AVOID DELAYS:** After applying online, please email any transcripts, letters, forms, copies of out-of-state certification or other required documents to [certapplication@doe.nj.gov](mailto:certapplication@doe.nj.gov). Electronic transcripts must be sent directly from your university, college, clearinghouse or school. Please include your tracking number in the subject line of all correspondence with our office.

This endorsement entitles the holder to teach **World Language - American Sign Language** in grades five through eight in all public schools. This endorsement does not permit the holder to teach the subject matter specialization in grades 9 through 12.

## **Degree Requirement**

- A minimum of a bachelor's degree is required from a regionally accredited college/university.

## **Cumulative GPA Requirement**

- New Jersey requires that candidates for certification achieve a cumulative **GPA of at least 3.0 when a GPA of 4.00 equals an A grade** for students graduating on or after **September 1, 2016 (2.75 for those graduating before September 1, 2016)** in a baccalaureate degree program, higher degree program or a State-approved post-baccalaureate certification program with a minimum of 13 semester-hour credits.
- Please note that there are GPA Flexibility Rules where a high praxis score may offset a GPA that is lower than 3.0, but higher than 2.75.

## **Certification**

- Regulations for certification require that applicants hold an Elementary School or N-12 subject matter endorsement in order to be eligible for Middle School with Subject Matter Specialization certificates. Issuance of the Middle School with Subject Matter Specialization certificate will be contingent upon eligibility and/or issuance of the Elementary School or N-12 subject matter endorsement.

## **Subject Matter Preparation**

- Current regulations for certification require that applicants complete a minimum of 15 credits in the subject area that you want to be certified in. Courses in educational pedagogy do not count towards the subject matter requirement. All credits must appear on a regionally accredited 2- or 4-year college/university transcript.

## **Testing Requirements**

### • **Sign Language Proficiency Interview (SLPI)**

Current regulations require applicants to achieve a score of advanced or above on the Sign Language Proficiency Interview (SLPI). This test was formerly known as the Sign Communication Proficiency Interview (SCPI). Testing information can be obtained from the New Jersey School for the Deaf, West Trenton, by contacting Kim Arrigo at [kim.arrigo@mksd.org](mailto:kim.arrigo@mksd.org). The Sign Language Proficiency Interview (SLPI) is offered by a team of professionals trained to administer the assessment. Inquire on fee for assessment.

### • **Basic Skills Assessment Requirement (choose one)**

All candidates applying for their initial CE must pass a Commissioner-approved test of basic skills. Scores must be presented directly from Educational Testing Service to the NJ Department of Education. Only official scores are accepted. **The New Jersey Department of Education code (R7666) and your Social Security number must appear on your test score report in order to be accepted. Please submit a copy of your test score report if you have taken the appropriate exams.**

OR

Score in the top one-third percentile on the SAT, ACT, or GRE for the year the test was taken. Official score reports must be sent directly from the testing agency.

**Physiology and Hygiene Requirement**

- This requirement may be completed by choosing one of the following options:
  - 1.) Present evidence of basic military training
  - 2.) Complete a course such as biology, health or nutrition that appears on a regionally accredited 2 or 4-year college/university transcript
  - 3.) Complete an online test. You must have a tracking number and an application on file to take this test. Once completed, please email us at [Licensing.Requests@doe.nj.gov](mailto:Licensing.Requests@doe.nj.gov) stating that the test has been taken. You will need to include your name and tracking number in the email.

**Fee Requirement**

- No checks or money orders will be accepted
- Please make the payment online
- Please notify your examiner after payment has been made.
- If your application expires after six months, you will be charged a fee of \$70.
- All fees, including money left on file, are nonrefundable

**You cannot complete the entire application process online. After applying online, please email all necessary documentation to [certapplication@doe.nj.gov](mailto:certapplication@doe.nj.gov). Electronic transcripts must be sent directly from your university, college, clearinghouse or school. Please include your tracking number in the subject line of all correspondence with our office.**

**If the above requirements have been met, then you may complete the online application in the Teacher Certification Information System (TCIS).**